GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2567
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2004
UPGRADATION OF DOORDARSHAN KENDRA, JALPAIGURI
Sen Smt. Minati

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Doordarshan Kendra, Jalpaiguri is operating and narrowcasting only a chunk of 30 minutes `Kishan` programme for five days in a week;

(b) whether the concerned Ministry is aware that the said kendra has opened for the basic need of the people of North Bengal which has multi lingual, multi cultural, multi ethnic people; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not upgrading this Doordarshan Kendra to a full fledged station with the object to broadcast `daily news` alongwith other programmes keep in view of border district ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : Jalpaiguri is a programme generating Kendra, which relays programmes of DDK, Kolkata and telecasts `Kisan` programme which is for development of local farmers funded by the Ministry of Agriculture.

(c) : The expansion of the existing infrastructure of Doordarshan is dependent upon the schemes approved by the competent authority and funds being made available for their execution. No immediate expansion of the facilities at DDK Jalpaiguri is on the anvil.